

PATENT

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Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) A viscoelastic preparation comprising greater than 1 percent by weight of a glycated chitosan polymer dispersed in an aqueous solution, said glycated chitosan polymer having a molecular weight of greater than 100,000 Daltons, said aqueous solution having a viscosity greater than 10,000 centistokes measured at 25° C and a pH in the range of 5.5 to 7.5.
2. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said aqueous solution possesses a pH between 6.3 and 7.
3. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said aqueous solution comprises a buffered physiological saline solution of said glycated chitosan.
4. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses between 30-90% glycation of its otherwise free amino groups.
5. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 4 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses about 60% glycation of its otherwise free amino groups.
6. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated

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chitosan polymer has a molecular weight between 100,000 and 2,000,000 Daltons.

7. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 comprising about nine percent by weight of said glycated chitosan polymer dispersed in said aqueous solution, wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses about 60% glycation of its otherwise free amino groups, and said aqueous solution having a viscosity of about 77,000 centistokes.
8. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 additionally containing one or more different viscoelastic materials miscible in said aqueous solution.
9. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 8 wherein said different viscoelastic material is selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate and carboxymethylcellulose.
10. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer comprises a monosaccharide bonded to said otherwise free amino groups.
11. (Currently Amended) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 10 wherein said monosaccharide comprises galactose.

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12. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer is in the form of a Schiff base, an Amadori product or mixtures thereof.

13. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer is in the form of a reduced Schiff base, a reduced Amadori product or mixtures thereof.

14. (Original) The viscoelastic preparation according to claim 1 wherein said glycated chitosan polymer possesses a number of chemically modified monosaccharide or oligosaccharide substituents.

15. Canceled.

16. Canceled.

17. Canceled.